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AGRICULTURAL.

Silo Building.

While the first silos we ever saw, and we think they were the first ever built in this country, were of stone and cement, built of stone and cement, they, or one of them at least, proved not to be strong enough to resist the pressure of the ensilage within and the action of the frost without. Then some learned that it was better to put more of the silo underground for protection. Others found that a much cheaper arrangement, made by taking a space a part of the barn cellar, or in some cases from the cellar floor up to take in a bay of the barn, kept the silage as well, and the only objection to it was that in some cases the lining soon decayed, requiring a new lining soon.

Lately the tub or stave silo has become very popular in some sections, and when well built is likely to prove durable and convenient. We have collected from various sources a few facts in regard to them and method of building them, which we will give as general directions for building one.

The foundation is the first to be built, and this should be laid first with large stones, sunk below danger of heaving by frost, then leveled up either with brick or small stone and cement. Some would have this sunk a few feet below the surface, and walled up, with the staves lining the inside of the wall, which we think is not a bad plan, but the wall needs to be strong to stand the pressure, of which we will speak later on. If this is not done the foundation should be at least one foot in diameter more than the silo.

The silo may be as desired, but it is better to make it too large than too small, as those who have silos are apt to increase the number of animals kept, and it is convenient to have silage laid to use when pastures dry up in summer. Some also have kept silage two or three years and said it was as good as that made the previous fall. There are tables which give the capacity in tons of silos of different diameters and depths, but we will quote only a few: Twenty feet deep and 15 feet diameter would hold about 50 tons, at 20 feet diameter 104 tons; 30 feet deep, 15 diameter, 105 tons; 30 feet deep, 20 inches diameter, 166 tons. The greater depth and less diameter is preferable, because there will be less surface exposed at the top to become damaged, and more can be fed down every day, thus keeping it good after it is opened.

Staves of two by four inches are called strong ones, and may need two by eight inches. Set these up in a circle, and just here comes a question. Many put these staves together without any level of the edge, trusting to the snugness of the hoop and the swelling of the wood to make them tight. Others level them, and some even join them to be sure they are tight. Probably if the level is properly made it would be the better way but not the cheap way. As staves would scarcely be as long as the height of the silo, care must be taken to break joints, so that there will be no special weak point, and yet they must be arranged so that the doors can be put on without a break, and that hoops may be put on so as to hold the joined ends. In setting up the staves are secured by temporary cleats inside until the hoops are put on.

One authority would have hoops of flat iron three inches wide and three-sixteenths of an inch thick, or of round iron five-eighths of an inch diameter, put two feet apart near the bottom of a 30-foot silo and increasing to five apart near the top, thus taking about eight hoops in 30 feet. The pressure is calculated to be about 10 pounds per square foot at 10 feet deep, and increase about 10 pounds for each foot in depth, or 220 pounds at 20 feet and 330 at 30 feet. Multiply that by the diameter to get the total pressure at any part of the wall, or 6600 pounds at the bottom of silo 30 feet deep and 20 feet inside diameter. This is one reason why we would be the bottom of the staves in a stone and cement pit for four to six feet, if not more. Hoops can be tightened by bolts or lugs, drawing the ends together, and are best made in three or four pieces each.

After hoops are on the doors inside next the barn to take out the silage. These may be planned for by leaving out one stave at a proper distance when putting up, but should be sawed from the inside with such a slant that the pressure of the ensilage will only press them more snugly into place, leaving them to project a little on the outside, or filling the saw slot with two thicknesses of building paper. Such a silo will need no lining to keep ensilage perfectly, but it will last longer if the walls are given a coating of hot coal tar on the inside, put on thickly and allowed to dry before silage is put on.

A roof can and properly should be put on to keep rain out, but it need not be an expensive affair, and some have not put on any, but trusted to the covering of straw to keep the silage from being injured. The roof should have boards that can be taken off when the cut corn is being put in, or they may be hung on strap hinges to open. There should be about three at the doors or places for taking out ensilage in a 30-foot silo, and four in one 30-foot high. It is said that one firm has put up about 3000 silos in New York State of styles similar to the above, with such variations as the size of the dairy and depth of the owner's pocketbook suggested, and that they are so much liked by their owners that their number is constantly increasing, some men having increased their dairies and the feeding capacity of their farms since the first silo was built for them. Others who could not afford them now think they cannot afford to be without them.

The University of Wisconsin in a recent bulletin strongly recommends the circular stone or brick silo strongly built with cement, and with iron rods laid in the cement to bind them together. Undoubtedly they would be more durable if well made, but we also know that any variety of masonry silo would cost much more than the stave silo, even here in New England, where we have stones to spare. Thus we have preferred to give directions for the wooden silo as adapted to the average farmer.

Bird Friends and Bird Enemies.
Bulletin No. 3 for the season of 1900, issued by the Maine State Board of Agriculture, gives much information in regard to the birds most common in that State which are beneficial to the farmer. We wish it were in our power to publish the whole of it, but the book can be had by the inhabitants of the State upon application, and we will condense it for the benefit of our readers in other States, as most of these birds are common throughout the Northern States.

All the shore birds are harmless if not actually beneficial, but one, the Barn Swallow, or sparrow hawk, often found in grassy fields and pastures, where it nests on the ground, is famous as a destroyer of grasshoppers, slugs, snails, beetles and other insects.

Of the hawks in Maine there are only six species among 71 which are injurious, and three others have good and bad habits in about equal proportions as has also one owl, leaving 15 of the hawk tribe, the Screech owl and Asio owl as destroyers of mice, grasshoppers, crickets and small reptiles. The Marsh hawk, the Red-tailed hawk, the Red-shouldered hawk and Broad-winged hawk are especial devourers of mice, squirrels, frogs and insects, though occasionally catching young birds, and the Red-tailed hawk is usually taking chickens or small fowl when forced to do so by hunger. The Sparrow hawk is the smallest of the hawks, and will capture sparrows or other small birds, but seems to prefer mice, caterpillars and various insects, so that it does a great deal of good. The advice is given, "Protect the hawks and owls unless sure that they are the individuals which are ravaging your barnyard, but in the latter case kill them."

The black-billed magpie is a purely beneficial bird. One has been seen to pick over 30 tent caterpillars out of a nest and eat them without stopping. They also eat the fall web worms, canker worms, Colorado beetle and many other injurious insects.

The hairy woodpecker and the Downy woodpecker are common, and may be easily known by the white stripes along the middle of the back and sides of the head, black backs and whitish breasts and bellies. They eat the larva of the wood-boring beetles and many species of caterpillars. The Flicker or Yellow Hammer is another woodpecker living mostly up in the same insects and ants, and though accused of eating cherries and berries in other States, in Maine they eat only wild fruits, and but sparingly of them.

The whelp poor-will and the night hawk are better known by sound than sight, as they are night flyers and feed entirely on insects that fly at night.

The swifts or chimney swallows as they are often erroneously called, live entirely on insects caught while flying, and the night species of fly catchers make flies and small insects the greater part of their diet, so that they may be classed among the most beneficial.

The king bird lives upon beetles, flies, moths, butterflies and other insects. They are accused of catching and eating bees, but examination of their stomachs shows such bees to be mostly the drones. They drive away hawks and crows from small birds, and from poultry when they find them committing depredations.

The phoebe or pewee, so called for its note, or sometimes the Bridge bird, because of its building on beams under bridges, is entirely an insect eater and is the wood pewee, the Great crested, the Olive sided, Yellow bellied, Alder and Least flycatchers. They are abundant through the Olive and Yellow breed only in the more extensive woods in the northern and western parts of the State. Every schoolboy should be familiar with these, and especially with the

Least flycatcher, which is often about the village and city streets and orchards with its cry of "chebe, chebe."

There are many beneficial birds among the crow family. The bobolink is one of them and in the Northern States devours many varieties of insects, and later in the season numerous weed seeds. In Southern States it is said to appear by the thousands on the rice fields and do much damage, but here it does none. This bird also builds its nest on the ground and among tall grass.

The Red-winged blackbird is another eater of weed seeds and insects in New England, but it is said to be a pest in the fields of small grain in Western States.

The Baltimore oriole, golden robin or hang bird is frequent in the southern and western part of the State, but rare along the coast in Hancock, Sagadahoc and Washington counties, and there are no

large birds. The four species of falcons known to visit Maine breed farther north, and come here in fall and winter. They take ducks and other game birds, wild fowl, rabbits and other small animals, and if they do the farmer little harm, they are in no way a help to him. The Duck hawk or Peregrine falcon and the Pigeon hawk are among these, though the latter named is not very common.

The yellow-bellied sapsucker is a little woodpecker which delights in boring holes in trees and feeding on the sap. It will sometimes have several rows of these holes around one tree, thereby killing it, but they are also insect eaters and may do much good as harm.

The Northern raven, exactly like the crow, but larger, frequents the coast and wooded islands. Complaint has been made that he pecks out the eyes of lambs. It also

ordinary crow I have planted 100 pots in an hour, and thus far, trees have died. Any number of potted trees can be carried to future plantations and left in places near the field of planting, to be placed in the soil when convenient. The pots are so small that even when well watered they weigh but little. My trees cost me here about 10 cents, we having done the work ourselves, which may seem a large sum; but the case with which they are transplanted and the small number lost in the process well offsets this.

I trust that this will prove of enough interest to your readers to have a notice made in your paper. A neighbor of mine who owns a woodlot of some 15 acres that has been cut is now planting with pine seedlings by this method, I having proved to him that it was sure of success. He is a man of small means and can plant but one day a week—Henry Brooks, in The Forester.

August Farm Hints.
SETTING PLANTS.
The extremely dry weather in July has been a disappointment and a hindrance to many who had plants for late crops which they would have liked to set out, or who did set some out only to see them wither and die. But this month is not too late for setting winter cabbages and cauliflower or winter celery. Prepare the ground thoroughly and make it rich, but not with rank and green manure, and select good, strong, vigorous plants. Sink the ground where they are well before taking them up, then put the plants into a pan of water and from that set them into the ground, pinching off the very long roots so that they will not curl up at the bottom of the hole. Then press the earth firmly up to them, and when a row is set walk along it, placing the feet firmly by the side of each plant. We have set cabbages so in about as hot an August day and as dry a time as we often have, with no rain falling for a week, no watering and no shade, and scarcely lost one out of hundreds. The celery plant being smaller may need watering the next day or shading about as soon as set, but we think shading most important. When we have not had a day's work at this work we prefer to do it in the afternoon. If they will a little damp night air and dew revived them.

Many such crops can be set as second crops where earlier crops of peas, greens or early potatoes have been taken off, and the manure put on for the first crop will help the second one greatly, while the land will be in a better condition than if it had been left to grow weeds. We have also seen such crops grown where the old strawberry bed had been plowed up. English or flat turnips may also be sown this month, for market or for stock feeding.

SOWING GRAIN SEED.
We like to sow timothy and red top or other grass seed in August without grain, but with a little flat turnip seed, perhaps a pound to the acre, using the turnips as a nurse crop to shade and protect the other, then pulling the best of the turnips in the fall and letting the smaller ones stay to rot in the ground. They prevent soil washing and may help to prevent winter killing, as the leaves of the turnips act as a mulch which is gone in the spring. If clover is wanted with the grass seed that may be sown early in the spring. Do not understand that we would limit our grass seed to the two kinds above named: Blue grass, orchard grass, sweet vernal and many other kinds might be named, some of which could be added, selecting according to whether the soil was a strong one or light, and whether the field was to be made a mowland, or was to become a part of pasture in a few years.

PREPARING LAND FOR GRAIN.
The land which is to be sown to winter wheat cannot be too well worked before sowing the seed. Plow it as early as possible and try to harrow it once a week to cause weed seeds to germinate and then to let the weeds before the grain seed is sown. The thorough pulverizing of the soil is almost equal to a coating of manure or to as much fertilizer as grain growers are apt to drill in with the seed, but when the land can have both tillage and manure the crop is likely to run far above what is called the average and then in when the profit is almost a sure thing. Remember that with the prospect of a war in which all the great nations of Europe may be involved, there is a chance for higher prices, and perhaps even for higher prices. While we are sorry for the blood shed, it would but make matters worse if some one did not grow food for the armies and people at home. Before sowing wheat select the best and plumpiest seed to be had. While some do so by fanning out small and light seed, taking that which being heaviest falls near the fan, some have sieves which sift out the small grains and weed seeds and save the other. Either way is much better than taking it from the bin without selection.

MOW STUBBLE LAND.
The fields from which the grain has been cut are likely to have many weeds start up among the stubble. It will usually pay well to mow these down to prevent their seeding the ground. If young clover is coming among them do not cut too closely in a dry time to let sun shine in and burn the roots.

HANDLING EARLY APPLES.
When the early apples begin to ripen, have those that fall picked up every day. There may be many of them worth evaporating, though not as good as winter fruit. Any one who has a good orchard should have one of the household evaporators, or make one with a series of wire screens to use over a cooking stove. At a small cost much saving can be made. Apples not

good enough for that purpose may be fed out to cattle, sheep or hogs, by using care not to feed them too freely at first, or at any time. But by gradually increasing they will use considerable many, and to good advantage. Such early apples are worth little for making cider or vinegar, and if they are eaten the larvae of the codling moth and other insects are effectually destroyed.

KILLING BUSHES.
To mow in August and burn in September used to be the rule for killing bushes. The time required for those that are cut to get dry enough to burn gives the sprouts a chance to start, and they are again killed down by the burning, which destroys the vitality of most of them, and if some make growth after that time the young wood is so tender that it is likely to wither kill. If they survive this, they would browse down the few sprouts that would show the next season. The sowing of a little white clover and grass seed on those places where the ashes were the thickest would make good pasture where the bushes are a nuisance.

LATE FODDER CROPS.
Oats and barley, with or without Canada peas, sown now will make excellent fodder next November, perhaps for weeks after the frost has spoiled the feed in the pasture, and thus will save much of the dry fodder in the barn. Later on winter rye may be sown, to be ready for cattle to be turned out next spring before pasture grass gets fit. With a prospect of a short crop of hay nearly all over the country, and a large demand from the various seats of war, we may see hay much higher next winter than it has been for many years; yet the farmer should not reduce his stock, excepting by weeding out such as is not profitable. Both meat and dairy products are as likely to be higher priced as lower, and the demand for good young stock will be heavy next season, so that hay or a substitute for hay may prove the most profitable crop one can grow.

FATTENING STOCK.
We are not among those who think it will not pay to fatten old cows or such as do not give milk enough to pay their keeping. By beginning with the succulent waste of the farm, unmarketable apples, roots, cabbages or pumpkins, and adding a little grain to that in such quantities as can be digested, and gradually increasing grain fed, we think almost any animal will fatten faster between Sept. 1 and Dec. 1 than at any other season of the year, and the cost of the feeding will scarcely be felt until the last few weeks, when the soft feed ceases and grain alone is given.

The best temperature for fattening any animal is when the thermometer ranges from 55° to 70°, or is outside of those points but a little while at a time. They seem to have a better appetite than when it is warmer, and there is not as much of the food required to keep up the heat of the system as when it is colder. The green food, if properly used, aids digestion, and we think a shrewd farmer should fatten cows, sheep or swine at this season, so that he would feel that he had made a profit even on the cow beef that sells at a low price. Especially should this be the case with such cows as are unprofitable because they put their food into beef instead of milk.

The Care of Paint Brushes.
There are few men living in small homes who do not occasionally wield a paint brush on house, barn or fence. One often feels the need of paint without being able to pay a trained painter. Hence he does the work himself. But painting is a good deal of an art, and is not to be learned in a day. Through ignorance or carelessness, therefore, the beginner is apt to commit more than one blunder. He may begin operations with a new brush too promptly, and consequently leave a lot of loose bristles wherever he piles it, or through lack of proper care the brush may become twisted and misshapen so that when it is used a second time it will not lay the paint so evenly. It has an unsightly, scratched appearance. A writer in The Hub recently remarked:

No new brush should be dipped in the paint and put to work without first being cleaned. By working it with brisk movement back and forth through the hand most of the dust and loose hairs will be taken out. A paint brush when thus thoroughly "dry cleaned" should be placed in water for a few minutes, not long enough to soak or swell it, but only until wet through, and then swung and shaken dry. It is then ready to dip in the paint, and although some of the hairs may still be loose, most of them will come out in the first few minutes working and can easily be picked from the surface.

For the first two or three days new brushes require special care while at rest. They should be dipped in raw oil or the paint itself and smoothed out carefully, then laid on their sides overnight. The chisel pointed brushes should be set at an incline, the handle supported just enough to allow the brush to lie along the point. This is done to prevent twisting of the bristles, and to keep the shape of the brush perfect. It is necessary to do this only two or three times before the shape becomes set.

The second most important principle in brush care is never to leave the brush on end while at rest. At night it should always be placed in a brush keeper—a water tight box or a paint keg, with nails driven through the sides on which the brushes can be suspended in water. Holes are bored in the handles so the brush will hang free of the bottom, but with the bristles entirely under water. Before placing them in water the brushes should be wiped so as not to be too full of paint, but not cleaned. Even for temporary rest during a job the brush should never stand on end.



YORKSHIRE TERRIER.
Recent Prize Winner, New York

records of it in Aroostook county. It likes to build on limbs of tall trees near gardens and orchards and feed on caterpillars, canker worms, fall web worms, beetles, grasshoppers, plants and bark lice and other insects.

The Redpoll dool and the American goldfinch, sometimes called willow canary, live upon the seeds of weeds and the coarser wild grasses, the latter having a great liking to seeds of the Canada thistle, but also eating seeds of rag weeds, bird weed, plantain and many others.

There are a dozen or so species of sparrows that are generally known as ground sparrows, though the tree sparrow and chipping sparrow do not nest on the ground, and the song sparrow often builds in a small tree or bush. They feed on about the same weed seeds as the finches, but some of them also eat many of the smaller insects and caterpillars.

The snow birds are also cleaners of weed seeds. The Red-breasted or Red-bellied grosbeak is an insect eater, but it also destroys the eggs and young of many birds that might eat more than itself. This it does by depositing its eggs in the nests of other birds, where its young crowd out the other birds, or appropriate the food brought and leave the others to starve.

The Bronz grackle or common Crow blackbird, may be said to do some good by eating injurious insects and weed seeds, but they are robbers of the nests of other birds, eating both eggs and young birds. They also do damage by eating sprouting grain and green peas from the vines. The author would advise shooting them only when necessary to protect the crop, while we would advise shooting them whenever and wherever seen.

The English sparrow is denounced in the most unparaphrasing terms as a pest in every sense of the word. Filthy in their habits about buildings, their nests harboring myriads of lice, which they distribute among domestic poultry, quail, and driving away our native birds, grain feeders and smaller birds, or appropriate the food brought and leave the others to starve.

The Cedar waxwings are destroyers of small insects and beetles all the year, and we ought not to begrudge them a few insects and strawberries, as the insects they kill might kill many more.

There are five species of vireos and 26 of warblers known in Maine, all of which live entirely upon insects injurious to vegetation. Small as they are they do much good, and so does the little chickadee, the latter more than the others because it is here the year around, and not only takes insects and their larva but the eggs. Professor Weed claims to have found 420 eggs of plant lice in the stomach of one bird.

The American robin is sometimes killed for robbing cherry trees and bushes of small fruits, but it is quite as well the wild cherry, choke cherry, mountain ash berry and thorn apple, and it eats enormous numbers of beetles, caterpillars, canker worms, grasshoppers and slugs.

The bluebirds like to build near houses, and if people would provide boxes for them to nest in, they would well pay for them in destroying tent caterpillars, canker worms and other insects. They usually rear two broods of young in a season, and from four to six at a time, and it takes many insects to feed such a family.

In Bulletin No. 4 they treat of the birds that are thought injurious to the farmer, and as the list is not a long one we will combine it with the bird friends.

The Sharp-shinned hawk is the worst of pests, as they will take chickens one-third to half grown, and a pair may take several in one day. They also kill many wild birds that are beneficial. Cooper's hawk is not so often seen, but is larger and takes larger poultry and game birds.

This American godhawk is common in fall and winter, but not so at the season when young chickens are about. They do some damage among pigeons, and more to game birds, as the partridge, quail and other

nest many birds' eggs, especially those of shore fowl.

The question whether the crow does more harm than good has long been disputed. It will eat sprouting grain, corn in the milk, young chickens, eggs and young of both wild and domestic birds. It also destroys mice and other small mammals, and thousands of the June beetle and other larva, the corn, grasshoppers and other insects. Most farmers consider it to do more harm than good.

The Cow bird, Cow blackbird or Cow-bunting is an insect eater, but it also destroys the eggs and young of many birds that might eat more than itself. This it does by depositing its eggs in the nests of other birds, where its young crowd out the other birds, or appropriate the food brought and leave the others to starve.

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The Cow bird, Cow blackbird or Cow-bunting is an insect eater, but it also destroys the eggs and young of many birds that might eat more than itself. This it does by depositing its eggs in the nests of other birds, where its young crowd out the other birds, or appropriate the food brought and leave the others to starve.

The Bronz grackle or common Crow blackbird, may be said to do some good by eating injurious insects and weed seeds, but they are robbers of the nests of other birds, eating both eggs and young birds. They also do damage by eating sprouting grain and green peas from the vines. The author would advise shooting them only when necessary to protect the crop, while we would advise shooting them whenever and wherever seen.

The English sparrow is denounced in the most unparaphrasing terms as a pest in every sense of the word. Filthy in their habits about buildings, their nests harboring myriads of lice, which they distribute among domestic poultry, quail, and driving away our native birds, grain feeders and smaller birds, or appropriate the food brought and leave the others to starve.

The Cedar waxwings are destroyers of small insects and beetles all the year, and we ought not to begrudge them a few insects and strawberries, as the insects they kill might kill many more.

There are five species of vireos and 26 of warblers known in Maine, all of which live entirely upon insects injurious to vegetation. Small as they are they do much good, and so does the little chickadee, the latter more than the others because it is here the year around, and not only takes insects and their larva but the eggs. Professor Weed claims to have found 420 eggs of plant lice in the stomach of one bird.

The American robin is sometimes killed for robbing cherry trees and bushes of small fruits, but it is quite as well the wild cherry, choke cherry, mountain ash berry and thorn apple, and it eats enormous numbers of beetles, caterpillars, canker worms, grasshoppers and slugs.

The bluebirds like to build near houses, and if people would provide boxes for them to nest in, they would well pay for them in destroying tent caterpillars, canker worms and other insects. They usually rear two broods of young in a season, and from four to six at a time, and it takes many insects to feed such a family.

In Bulletin No. 4 they treat of the birds that are thought injurious to the farmer, and as the list is not a long one we will combine it with the bird friends.

The Sharp-shinned hawk is the worst of pests, as they will take chickens one-third to half grown, and a pair may take several in one day. They also kill many wild birds that are beneficial. Cooper's hawk is not so often seen, but is larger and takes larger poultry and game birds.

This American godhawk is common in fall and winter, but not so at the season when young chickens are about. They do some damage among pigeons, and more to game birds, as the partridge, quail and other

AGRICULTURAL.

The Pea Louse and Its Enemies.

The appearance of the pea aphid, which has attacked the growing peas in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina and Connecticut, has called attention to the fact that pea culture is an important industry in the United States. The attack which the pea louse made on the growing crop this season will cause a loss of about \$11,000,000. One grower in writing about his efforts to exterminate the pest says:

"On the whole, the condition for a large crop of peas is everything but encouraging. That the pea louse is not easily conquered is now admitted."

One of the larger growers is quoted as saying:

"We regret to have to confess that we have been 'licked clean out of our boots' so far in our efforts to exterminate the pea louse."

The louse has been known only about one year, but it has established its name as an economic pest. It appears suddenly and in large numbers, and soon kills the plants. The winged insect is about one-eighth of an inch long, with a wing expanse of nearly one-quarter of an inch. It is pale green, with darker legs and long honey tubes. The female produces living young, which reach maturity in from 10 to 15 days, and in less time when the weather is hot.

An observer of the pea louse writes this as to its peculiarities:

"A young one born on March 4 reached maturity—the winged form—on March 16, and was producing living young on the 19th. From March 19 to April 17 she became the mother of 111 young, and died on the latter date. Her first young—wingless forms—born on March 19, produced on March 31, or eleven days from date of birth. From March 31 to April 18 she gave birth to 120 young and died."

When they are permitted to breed unchecked the pest sweeps over a large area in a short time, and many large fields have been killed in a few days.

The natural enemies of the pea louse are lady beetles and their larvae, the lacewing fly and its larvae, the syrphus fly and its young and soldier beetles. These have been abundant in many parts of the country this year where peas have been planted, and in some parts of the country these natural enemies have saved 25 per cent of the crop. Many were also destroyed by the fungus disease, and in places where the louse has appeared, the grower is warned to use warm and sultry weather, under which conditions the fungus disease usually develops.

It will not do, a pea grower said, to depend too much on these natural destroyers. He recommends the use of the brush and cultivator where the peas are in rows. A destroying spray composed of tobacco, white oil soap and water was used with good effect until it became known that the spray destroyed also a natural enemy of the pea louse. This enemy is the syrphus worm. This insect's power as an exterminator of pea lice is demonstrated in the report of an observer to the Maryland Agricultural College. He says:

"The syrphus worms feed on the lice at a rapid rate. Yesterday we found a syrphus worm nearly full grown and placed a louse within its reach, when it was quickly devoured. We then placed a mother and seven newly born lice clustered about her in a small jar, enclosed the syrphus worm, and found that by actual time the worm destroyed the seven lice in exactly seven minutes and the mother a little later."

The writer warns pea growers not to destroy the syrphus, and in order to avoid all possibility of doing so to use no spray against the pea destroyer. When the lice are brushed off and the ground is hot the little creatures are roasted to death by the sun.—N. Y. Tribune.

Practical Sheep Husbandry.

Thin pastures may be greatly improved by running a plow over them, spreading a bushel of plaster to the acre over the grass and scattering some fresh seed.

The old English pastures on which it is impossible to find the ground under the herbage are kept so by frequent harrowings and top dressings of manure or fertilizers. It is the pasture which makes the lamb. No other feed will make the milk that sweet, tender grass will, and the milk makes the lamb. Then the lamb makes the profit. Three parts of corn meal, two parts of bran and one part of cotton-seed meal will easily make a good lamb weigh 80 to 100 pounds in 100 days; always providing, of course, that it is the right kind of lamb.

Size is an illusive test of value. It is not even a surety of a heavyweight. A broad backed ewe with short legs and deep body, with a full low brisket, will outrank the long-legged, sick-sided sheep which a novice would select as the best.

It is a good time now to select the stock for the keeping up of the flock. Keep only the best feeders, those which eat the most, and eat it quietly, attending strictly to business, and reject the uneasy restless ones, which are always hunting the best place in the trough and then waste time to fight for it.

It is also a good time to cull out the ewe flock, to select the best of them for rearing lambs next year. It is not the biggest ewe rears always the best lamb; but as a rule a good ewe with a single lamb is better to keep than the ewe which are apt to bring twins and then are not able to rear them.

Use the tar and fish oil brush on the sheep's noses from late autumn, as an antidote against the hateful bot fly. Keep small heaps of dry earth near the sheep's shaded resorts, where they stay in the sunniest hours. Destroy every fly seen annoying the sheep. It is a little thing, but it lays 150 eggs at least. One bot fly may therefore do a world of mischief in the flock.

The fly rashes mostly in those places where the sheep have late in the night or in the heat of the day. For a farm flock of value it is probable to set up sheds here and there, in which, with open windows protected by wire gauze, the sheep may lie in the middle of the day. If these sheds are made light and movable by a team, it will be very desirable to keep them moved on to fresh ground every week.

Don't discard a ewe on account of her age. It is better to keep the best mothers, as these lambs are always strong who have always plenty of milk, and which are tractable, and, in short, have no faults or bad habits. Never count her carcass as an element of value. Many wise shepherds have had a formal funeral over a good ewe which has reared in her life half a score of good lambs, has given a dozen good fleeces, and has never misbehaved or caused any anxiety to the shepherd, and whose fleece has all the desirable points.

It is an easy matter to make a pasture carry three times as many sheep as it otherwise would by dividing it and using each part for a reasonable time and changing from

one to the other before one is eaten down too much. When on a large pasture a flock will wander all over it, eating here and there and soiling the uneven parts, and then refuse to feed longer, but spend their time in seeking some way of escape from it, and generally finding one before long. Then the usefulness of the flock is gone, for a restful sheep is a bad sheep. For a 20-acre field and 100 sheep we would divide the field into five parts, and keep the flock on each part until it is eaten pretty close, then would feed some grain feed for a few days, after which the flock should be turned on to the new ground.—American Sheep Breeder.

The Management of Angora Kittens.

The breeding of Angora kittens has been largely increased the past year, and probably within the past two years the number of breeders have multiplied at least by two; not that simply fanciers have entered into the keeping of these pets, but that large operators have made sufficient outlays to carry on the raising of these animals in a successful way, and, at the same time, on a larger scale than was anticipated.

Here in the East the Angora was supposed to be a familiar pet; there were plenty of them. But by rapid successes made by large breeders, the stock has multiplied in such a way that now, while Boston and some parts of the New England States are the possessors of the largest Angora farms, yet there are many such farms in the South and West that have sprung up within the past 12 months and have raised the Angora on a large scale.

The most serious objection to much of the Angora cat breeding is that no care at all is given to the mating of these animals, and in the early purchase of stock the beginner believes that an Angora is simply an Angora, quite as a dog is a dog and a horse is a horse. There is not enough attention paid to the ancestry of the specimens purchased; they are bought wholly for their appearance, and no care is taken to note if they are proper specimens to own and to have.

Many serious disappointments have resulted from this lack of care at the start. Stock that is weak and feeble has been raised, and kittens have been bred that have no traces of the Angora. Other specimens have grown and developed poorly. Some have only the body and shape of an Angora, the hair seems to be lacking. Other breeders complain that the Angora is not fixed enough in type so as to breed properly, that if paired-off, properly mated, the young do not develop as the sire and dam, the ruff is lacking, the tail is long and thin, there is no long Angora hair, which beautifies the animal. If one would only stop and consider, he would realize the importance of preserving these features.

How few people who enter into the breeding of these Angoras realize at the time that there is as much attention needed in selecting stock as there is when one is purchasing some other animal, such as a horse, or a dog, or a sheep. A specimen may be fine looking, stylish in appearance, and in every way a desirable creature, but apparently, after looking back to its ancestry, there may be many faults which would develop in the second generation, perhaps causing the third and fourth to be inferior specimens, thus allowing the stock to deteriorate rather than to increase in its beauty. One great mistake is in permitting poor specimens to be mated and bred and have their young sold and bred again, thus continuing a line which is of no value, and finally resulting in stock that cannot be given away.

A large number of our breeders of Angora cats are simply selling mongrel stock. There is no trace of the Angora blood, simply a few long hairs, and the fact that they claim them to be Angora cats and sell them at low prices rather than to face the fact that to stimulate the interest in the breeding of these pets, which ought to be managed by people who not only have plenty of time, but means and influence to encourage the higher people to invest in such pets, which should in time occupy a position quite equal to that of dogs and other fancy animals.

We are too apt to accept stock that is inferior rather than to trouble ourselves to locate animals which have some family lines and records, and also we are too careless in regard to breeding brothers and sisters, which in time causes weak and faulty specimens. Perhaps three-fourths, surely one-half of all the cats raised among many of the breeders are specimens that never should have been bred, stock that should be sold singly, specimens that have no excuse for claiming relationship to the Angora family.

There is as much difference in a thoroughbred Angora cat as compared with a mongrel as there is in a thoroughbred horse or a thoroughbred cow. In the breeding of these pets, which ought to be managed by people who not only have plenty of time, but means and influence to encourage the higher people to invest in such pets, which should in time occupy a position quite equal to that of dogs and other fancy animals.

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THE POLAND CHINA PIG.

Intelligence, kindness or love. The gentleness of a desirable specimen is far superior to one that is ill tempered and improperly reared, and the two kittens are so entirely different that one is a prize, while the other may prove a torment.

Boston. ROBERT KENT JAMES.

Massachusetts Crop Report.

The State Board of Agriculture through its secretary, J. O. Stockwell, issues the following summary of crop conditions for July: "No noticeable damage from insects is reported, if we except that from the pea louse, a new insect which has done great damage to the pea crop in some market garden sections. Potato bugs are generally reported, but not as yet doing any unusual amount of damage. Other insects spoken of are currant worms, squash bugs, cabbage worms, tent caterpillars, canker worms, elm leaf beetles, horned rose bugs, codling moths, asparagus beetles, pear tree pyralis, grasshoppers, plant lice, corn worms, white grubs, cut worms, curculios and squash vine borers.

Indian corn is generally in first-class condition in western and central sections, though perhaps a little late. In the eastern part of the State it was suffering from drought prior to the rain of the 25th and 26th, though not as badly as most other crops. The recent rain should have relieved this condition, and it should do fairly well with a proper amount of moisture from now on. As always, more corn is used for silage in Worcester County than elsewhere, the southeastern counties being those where there are the fewest silos.

At the time of making returns hay was practically completed. From two-thirds to three-fourths of a full crop is the favorite estimate as to quantity, with perhaps nearer an average crop in eastern and southeastern sections, it is Barnstable County is excepted. The quality of the crop is generally said to be good, and it was mainly secured in first-class condition. The short hay crop has led to a considerable increase in the acreage of forage crops over the State. Fodder crops are the crop most extensively used for this purpose, closely followed by oats, Hungarian grass, millets and barley. Other crops grown for forage are clover, peas, beans and peas, rye, peas, soy beans, cabbages and roots. In western and central sections they were generally reported to be in fair condition, but in eastern counties they were suffering badly from drought at the time of making returns, a condition probably relieved by the rain of the 25th and 26th.

Market-garden crops were generally suffering from drought, those now ready for market being short crops in the principal market-garden sections, and later ones at a standstill, before the rains. These should now do well with seasonal rains. Prices average about as usual.

At the time of making returns early potatoes were being dug in many places. The crop has apparently suffered much from drought in nearly all sections, the rain coming too late to materially aid it, and there are numerous reports that it is nearly or quite a failure. Prices are reported as lower than usual, a surprising condition in view of the short crop. The late crop should do well with rain, as no blight is reported.

Apples dropped badly during the month and are reported to be in poor condition. The present article of exports were: Potatoes \$1,034,697, breadstuffs \$429,684, live animals \$210,150, cotton raw \$175,346, cotton manufactured \$14,232, leather and manuf. of same \$218,388, iron and manuf. of same \$89,553, wood and manuf. of same \$40,327, sewing and manuf. of same \$44,744, paper \$51,023, grease \$7,075, carriages and parts of same \$11,322, the above chemicals \$7435, hardware \$10,820, sugar and molasses \$9457, tallow \$11,191, spirits \$40,471.

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NOTES AND QUERIES.

BOLIVIAN NATIVES.—"Traveler": The Indian women are logicians and industrious, and have remarkable taste in colors and designs. They love gay tints and embroideries, and wear quantities of adornments. They have a distinctive costume of home manufacture, which the dealers in imported goods fortunately have not been able to disturb. They usually wear a little Panama hat, braided of soft white fibre, with black band, perched jauntily upon their abundant black hair, which hangs in two long braids down their backs. Their dresses resemble those worn by the peasants in the Tyrol. The short skirts of gay colors hang above the knee tops, and reveal gay hose and native shoes of bright colored leather, with long laces and high French heels. Sometimes the shoes are white, sometimes yellow, red, or purple—the brighter the better—and any color except black. Under the skirt are an indefinite number of white petticoats, elaborately embroidered and edged with lace. The waists are made of bright-colored calico, velvet and other fabrics, and around their shoulders they wear light shawls or scarves, called rebosas. The men go barefooted and bareheaded and wear short, wide trousers of dark woolen cloth that are slit up the back as far as the knee, so as to give their legs free action in climbing the mountain trails. Under these trousers they have white cotton drawers, which always seem to be clean and well laundered. Upon their heads they wear close fitting caps or hoods of knitted work or some dark woolen cloth that fits closely down over the ears and the neck like the hoods little children wear in cold weather in New England. Upon their feet they wear shoes of straw or felt, while their bodies are protected by the inevitable poncho, which is their coat by day and their blanket by night, a comprehensive as well as comfortable garment.

ABOUT BABY'S NAIL.—"Anxious Mother": The baby's nails must not be cut till he is a year old, for fear he should grow up a thief, or they may be cut in Cleveland, "light fingered." The mother must bite them off, if he be, and in the west of Northumberland it is believed that if the first parting is buried under an ash tree the child will turn out a "top singer." The mention of the ash is curious, for it has not been from very ancient times a sacred tree, supplying in its sap the first nourishment to the Greek hero, as now to the Celtic Highlander. Nay, according to Herodotus, Zeus made the third or brass race of hard ash wood—pines and oaks and the like—of the people of the Northmen, out of which he believed the first man was made, was an ash. When the year of infancy is past, the baby's nails may safely be given up to the scissors. Care must be taken not to cut them on a Sunday or a Friday. Friday, of course, is an unlucky day, and as for Sunday, the old rhyme says:

Better a child had never been born,
Than cut his nails on a Sunday morn.
Another variation of the verse runs thus:
Friday hair, Sunday horn,
Better that child had never been born.
And yet another:
Sunday shaven, Sunday shorn,
Better had that child never been born.

Or at greater length:
Cut them on Monday, cut them for health;
Cut them on Tuesday, cut them for wealth;
Cut them on Wednesday, cut them for news;
Cut them on Thursday, a new pair of shoes;
Cut them on Friday, cut them for sorrow;
Cut them on Saturday, a present tomorrow;
But he that on Sunday cuts his horn
Better that he had never been born.

THE LAPATTE FAMILY.—"R. W. C.": There are great-grandchildren of Lafayette now living, but the immediate family connection is dwindled to a bare fifty. The Marquis de Lafayette, one of the best known of the nation, has told me considerable of his ancestor's name, which still holds prestige in the nation, although the average Frenchman is remarkably ignorant of the subject of Lafayette's history. La Fayette, the country home of Lafayette, a few leagues from Paris, has been a shrine for a century for visiting Americans, and when the Marquis was alive was noted for its hospitality. The present family keeps a portion of its traditions in this respect, and gave me an invitation to visit the grand old castle. Its five-pointed towers, from the Norman days of the twelfth century, loom picturesquely above the trees. The mark of a cannon ball upon one of the towers is still visible, a grim reminder of the troubled period when the castle was attacked by the Marquis de Lafayette.

WHAT ARE THE RULES THAT GOVERN HANDSHAKING? IS IT SUPPOSED TO BE MORE OF AN AMERICAN HABIT THAN A EUROPEAN ONE?—Young Society Girl: Men in America, on being introduced generally shake hands; women only bow, but in society now it is customary for women to shake hands with their men acquaintances when they come up to greet them even in a ballroom. It is not a formal shake, but just a light touch of the hand, and is given and taken in a way that is peculiar to smart people and is, therefore, rather typical. The custom of the ballroom, handshaking is altogether an imported one, and why Americans are supposed to be a particularly handshaking nation, one of the best known of the nation, has told me considerable of his ancestor's name, which still holds prestige in the nation, although the average Frenchman is remarkably ignorant of the subject of Lafayette's history. La Fayette, the country home of Lafayette, a few leagues from Paris, has been a shrine for a century for visiting Americans, and when the Marquis was alive was noted for its hospitality. The present family keeps a portion of its traditions in this respect, and gave me an invitation to visit the grand old castle. Its five-pointed towers, from the Norman days of the twelfth century, loom picturesquely above the trees. The mark of a cannon ball upon one of the towers is still visible, a grim reminder of the troubled period when the castle was attacked by the Marquis de Lafayette.

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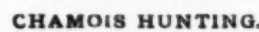
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Desirable Turkeys.

Poultry and Game.

HORTICULTURAL.

An idea of the amount of the fruit crop that is expected this year in the Central States may be gained by the report from one firm engaged in making boxes and baskets for fruit. They have factories at Petoskey and Benton Harbor, Mich., and Decatur, Ala. Their orders for this year aggregate 300,000 crates of 16 quarts, 50,000 of 24 quarts, 2,000,000 grape baskets, 1,000,000 peach baskets one-fifth bushel each, 60,000 bushel peach baskets or more if the estimate be made, 500,000 six-basket peach crates.



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FAVORITE PRESCRIPTION
MAKES WEAK WOMEN STRONG
AND SICK WOMEN WELL.

VALU OF GARDEN.

—Eggs are firm for good stock though demand is light. Some nearby and Cape fancy bring 20 to 21 cents, as supply is limited, but Northern and Eastern choices from 16 to 18 cents, though not many above 17, fair to good 12 to 14 cent. Some fancy long Western are exported at 14½ cents, but 13 to 14 cents is the

Exports included 48,831 pounds butter, 25,357 pounds cheese and 140,180 pounds oleo.

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MARKETS

BOSTON LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Week ending Aug. 8, 1900.	
Amount of Stock at Market.	
	Shotes
Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, Veals	And Fat
This week, 3507	8211 105 20,764 1704
Last week, 4121	7279 78 22,085 1977

Values on Northern Cattle, etc.

Beef—Per hundred pounds on total weight of side, tail and meat, extra, \$6.00; first quality, \$5.50; second quality, \$5.00; third quality, \$4.50; fourth quality, \$4.00; single, \$3.50; extra, \$3.00; some of use poorest, \$2.50; \$2.00; \$1.50; \$1.00; \$0.50; \$0.25.

Cows and Young Cattle—Fair quality, \$3.00

per hundred pounds on total weight of side, tail and meat, extra, \$3.00; first quality, \$2.50; second quality, \$2.00; third quality, \$1.50; fourth quality, \$1.00; single, \$0.50; extra, \$0.25; some of use poorest, \$0.10; \$0.05; \$0.025.

Stores—Thin young cattle for farmers: yearling, \$1.00; two-year-old, \$1.25; three-year-old, \$1.50.

Sheep—Per hundred, live weight, \$2.50; extra, \$3.00; first quality, \$2.00; second quality, \$1.50; third quality, \$1.00; fourth quality, \$0.50; single, \$0.25; extra, \$0.10; some of use poorest, \$0.05; \$0.025.

Fat Hogs—Per hundred, live weight, \$5.00; extra, \$5.50; first quality, \$4.50; second quality, \$4.00; third quality, \$3.50; fourth quality, \$3.00; single, \$2.50; extra, \$2.00; some of use poorest, \$1.50; \$1.00; \$0.50; \$0.25.

Veal Calves—3/4 cwt. \$1.00; 1/2 cwt. \$0.75; 1/4 cwt. \$0.50; 1/8 cwt. \$0.25; 1/16 cwt. \$0.125; 1/32 cwt. \$0.0625; 1/64 cwt. \$0.03125; 1/128 cwt. \$0.015625; 1/256 cwt. \$0.0078125; 1/512 cwt. \$0.00390625; 1/1024 cwt. \$0.001953125; 1/2048 cwt. \$0.0009765625; 1/4096 cwt. \$0.00048828125; 1/8192 cwt. \$0.000244140625; 1/16384 cwt. \$0.0001220703125; 1/32768 cwt. \$0.00006103515625; 1/65536 cwt. \$0.000030517578125; 1/131072 cwt. \$0.0000152587890625; 1/262144 cwt. \$0.00000762939453125; 1/524288 cwt. \$0.000003814697265625; 1/1048576 cwt. \$0.0000019073486328125; 1/2097152 cwt. \$0.00000095367431640625; 1/4194304 cwt. \$0.000000476837158203125; 1/8388608 cwt. \$0.0000002384185791015625; 1/16777216 cwt. \$0.00000011920928955078125; 1/33554432 cwt. \$0.000000059604644775390625; 1/67108864 cwt. \$0.0000000298023223876953125; 1/134217728 cwt. \$0.00000001490116119384765625; 1/268435456 cwt. \$0.000000007450580596923828125; 1/536870912 cwt. \$0.0000000037252902984619140625; 1/1073741824 cwt. \$0.00000000186264514923095703125; 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OUR HOMES.

FIREWORKS.

LADIES KNITTING.

Chatting and laughing at one of the sea-side resorts was a party of ladies on the piazza. They were all knitting the prettiest scarfs so much worn and easily made. All the shades of the rainbow were seen. Pink and white, corn color and white, blue and white, all white, lavender and white, etc. The material required is Shetland fleecy. Large wooden needles, No. 12 (needles cost twelve cents).

Eight skeins or one pound of Shetland fleecy is used, four of the color, four of white, or if preferred all one color. Take two skeins, one of color, one of white, and wind on from each skein together in one ball.

Then using two ends at once from the ball cast on 80 stitches and work in plain garter stitch back and forth for two yards. Then bind off loosely and tie in fringe on each end. Some ladies put scallops on the sides, but I prefer it without. A pretty combination is dove color and white or Nile green and white.

EVA M. NILES.

What to do in Case of Fire.

"Presence of mind and a few buckets of water,"—these are the two desiderata in case of fire; at least so we are told by a writer in the Paris Cosmos (April 28). The former is a matter partly of temperament and partly of training; the latter every one may and should have. If the fire does not believe that dependence can be placed on chemical extinguishers or hand-grenades, although both have done good service. The great thing is to realize that much may be done to extinguish a fire by ordinary methods in a few seconds, and that these few seconds of grace are almost always at one's disposal, no matter how imminent the danger. Says the writer:

"In fires the danger, immediate though it may seem, is never instantaneous. There are always a few minutes in which to seek for a means of safety.

"Take a few examples: A woman's hair takes fire; she seizes a towel, wraps it around her head, and then, running rapidly to the bathroom, puts her head under the faucet. She will escape with very slight burns. You are cleaning your gloves with gasoline and it catches fire. If the gloves are on your hands it will be sufficient to wring them in the folds of your dress or to thrust them under rug or cushion. The flames will go out at once for lack of air.

"Suppose you have committed the great imprudence of filling a kerosene lamp while it is still hot; the kerosene has taken fire, the lamp has fallen, and the flames leap up to the ceiling. Pull down the curtains as quickly as you can and remove any inflammable furniture that is near; then throw wet cloths on the flames to smother them. Never throw water on burning oil, it floats on the water; but when it has ceased to run and burns in separate spots, water may be used to extinguish the burning spots.

"A curtain takes fire: Run to the furniture at once, draw the curtain to one side, and taking a wet cloth on a broom, beat the curtain with it. You can then easily put out a fire that might have become serious.

"Going at night into a closet with a lighted candle, you set fire to a dress. Do not try to pull it out; you will only increase the damage. Shut the door quickly and go for pails of water which you can throw in after opening the door again. You will perhaps save some of your clothes, and at any rate you will prevent the destruction of your house.

"When the clothes that you are wearing take fire, it is most elementary prudence not to run, and not to open a window to call for help; this only aids the flames. You should simply roll on the floor and try to smother with part of your dress the portions that are burning.

"Often an impatient blaze can be very easily put out. Various forms of apparatus have been invented to assist in such cases. They are of two kinds:

"One kind contains chemical substances that will produce, when mixed by a simple movement, carbonic-acid gas. This gas exerts pressure on the water in the apparatus, which it projects to a distance. The capacity of such extinguishers is limited to about six gallons. Besides this, their mechanism is delicate, and at the moment when you want to use them, the stopcocks may be rusted so that they will not turn.

"Buckets of water placed where they can easily be reached by watchmen are of greater value; grenades are also used in many establishments. Here is what M. Felicien Michotte, an engineer who has written an interesting book on the subject, has to say of these:

"Grenades are glass bottles containing a liquid which, either in contact with the fire or when the bottle breaks, gives off non-combustible gases that produce a sort of artificial cloud, preventing the access of air to the burning object. One of these liquids is made by dissolving twenty pounds of cooking salt and ten of sal ammoniac in eight gallons of water.

"This is all very well in theory, but practically it does not always work. The grenade must be thrown exactly on the fire. Now, in a moment of excitement the most skillful will throw it to one side, and there will be no result. . . . But this is not all; there is real danger. In the Charity Bazaar fire there were grenades hanging along the wall; these, under the action of fire, burst and gave rise to choking clouds that aided the flames in their work of destruction and prevented the victims from seeing their way."

"Means of defense that are at every one's disposal are: pails of water, the use of moist mops and brooms, earth or sand, and soda-water siphons."

The author does not believe in the use of paints or stains that are supposed to make wood or cloth incombustible. Although these, he says, have a certain amount of usefulness in the case of very light fires, they generally rot or alter the substance to which they are applied. Asbestos paint is absolutely ineffective. Powdered asbestos is incombustible, but no more so than the ordinary substances used in paints. As for wooden casings or walls, no substance applied in layers of greater or less thickness can possibly resist a fire that stone, brick and cement cannot stand. In conclusion, the writer says:

"Notwithstanding this, simple precautions will enable us to prevent a conflagration in most cases. With presence of mind and a few buckets of water, most fires may be put out even before the arrival of the engines."

Translation made for the Literary Digest.

Fragrant Salts.

Women of today are not as liable to faint as their grandmothers were, because they dress more sensibly and do not wear as tight dresses or as light shoes and gloves, but it is a wise and sensible precaution to

keep fragrant salts on hand. Any salt loses its strength in a short time. The simple lavender salts are the most desirable of all perfumed salts. These are easily prepared at home. While you are preparing a portion of these salts, it is as easy to make several bottles or vialgrettes as one, and the cost is small. Procure half a dozen small clear glass bottles, with stoppers, and glass stoppers if you wish. A pretty stopper costs very little purchased with the bottles by the half dozen, and adds considerably to the value of the vialgrette as a gift. It is desirable that a vialgrette be small, so it may be easily carried in the pocket. Vialgrettes are often very elaborate, decorated with silver, gold and even precious stones, but a tiny bottle of clear glass with a pretty stopper is always in good taste and as useful as a more ornate one. To prepare the salt, procure from a trustworthy druggist half a pound of carbonate of ammonia and an ounce and a half of the best oil of lavender. Crush the two together in a mortar, or in any dish that will mix them. Set the mixture in a large bowl, which should be put in a pan of warm water, covered and set in a moderate oven for about an hour. Stir the mixture several times while it is heating. It is not necessary for the ammonia to be crushed fine. If it is broken lumps it lasts longer. Do not get in the foolish habit of using a vialgrette continually. Cases of obstinate deafness have been ascribed to this cause. The salts are also said to have an injurious effect on the vocal cords as well as on the auditory nerves when used continually. Even the odor of flowers, notably the odor of violets, has been known to cause a singer temporarily to lose her voice.—New York Tribune.

Care of the Rubber Plant.

Few housewives realize the amount of care which rubber plants require. They are frequently the most forlorn objects to look upon, as the leaves are so large and of so deep a green that dust is plainly in evidence, a fact of which many owners of these plants seem unaware. It may not be known that the plant "breathes" through its leaf, and its life is menaced when its lungs are choked with dust. A careful woman, who has great success with her plant, removes the leaves on both the under and upper sides at least three times a week, and more often if the plant has been exposed to an unusual amount of dust. Only enough water should be poured on the roots to keep the soil moist, and once a week the earth should be loosened about the roots, two teaspoonfuls of castor oil allowed to drip upon them, and then the earth is replaced. The plant should never be allowed to grow in unsightly fashion, but properly dwarfed into a shapely bush form.—Tribune.

The Baby's Bath.

There is no tonic which can be given to a fretful baby, sick with teething, which is equal to a salt bath. Little children are a great deal from the bath and become restless and nervous, so that it is not strange that they often fall a victim to the more or less serious disorders of the digestive organs, which we are apt to attribute to teething, because they occur when the child is cutting teeth.

We now know that a great deal of sickness is laid to the account of teething which a due to improper feeding, improper air and similar causes. Teething is a natural process and in a healthy child, systematically and sensibly fed, it should not be accompanied by any violent sickness, but merely by a slight disturbance of the system. A great many children out their teeth so easily that the mother does not know they are teething until the teeth appear.

When the second summer falls at the time the online teeth (the eye and eye teeth) are cut it is likely to be more disorder of the child's system, owing to indigestion and to heat as much as to teething. The canine teeth may be expected any time from the fourteenth to the twentieth month. If the child is delicate they may be delayed later. They are irregular in their order. It is important that the child should sleep regularly and should have plenty of outdoor exercise. The most objectionable doors when the weather will allow the greater the child's chances of a healthy teething.

The salt bath is a tonic to a nervous, fretful baby which is better than any medicine. Use it at night, if the child refuses to go to sleep at his regular hour. The best salt is pure rock. Dissolve half a cupful in a child's bathtub full of lukewarm water. Be careful to dissolve the salt thoroughly in water before adding to the tub, as sharp crystals may otherwise cut like glass the delicate skin. A restless baby feels the soothing power of this warm bath as soon as it is put in it, and will often go to sleep after being taken out of it before it can be dressed for bed. Dry its skin with a soft, absorbent damask towel, and do not try to keep it awake. Put it to bed after feeding it, if it is near its feeding hour, as soon as possible. A feverish baby will often go to sleep outdoors who refuses to close its eyes indoors. Keep its carriage outdoors under the trees, and let it take its nap and its meals outdoors, in the daytime at least. It will awake with the lark whether it is sick or well, and it is natural that it should. It should be taken out as soon as possible after it wakes up, to get the benefit of the unobstructed bath for all physical ills the sun is found in the early morning air, laden with the perfume of opening flowers. If the little one is disposed to be up in the morning, as healthy, active babies are, let it lie itself about on the thick woolen creasing blanket spread on the grass in a shaded place, but a place which during part of the day is subject to the rays of the sun, so there will be no poisonous germs there, such as lurk in damp places where the sun never comes.—N. Y. Tribune.

Foreign Substances in the Eye.

A natural instinct impels a person who feels pain or irritation to rub the affected spot. When some trifling object gets under the eyelid, one is tempted to rub the exterior of the lid, and this unconsciously imbeds the object in the inner surface, thus rendering its ultimate removal more difficult. Another almost irresistible impulse prompts one to wink. This operation is apt to have the same effect. If the lid is promptly turned inside out, though, danger from both of these causes will be avoided, and the discovery of the mischief-making particle may be promoted. It is better to have some one else do the hunting, but if a looking glass is at hand, perhaps the victim can see well enough with the other eye to find the object in question. A correspondent of the Scientific American makes these suggestions:

Gently hold the eye open with the

finger and thumb of one hand, while with the other hand dash light handfuls of water in and across it, so as to produce a current of water flowing over all the surface of the eye, and the under side of the lids. The effect of this almost invariably is to push the intruding object from the eye.

The eye should not be rubbed or one lid drawn over the other, or a silk handkerchief drawn across the affected part, but the eye should be kept from winking as much as possible, while prompt action is being taken to cause a current of water to pass over the surface of the ball.

This method is a copy from nature, for when very fine dust enters the eye nature seeks to relieve it by means of the fluids which moisten and lubricate the eye, and when larger objects enter, and cling more tenaciously, the irritation causes a copious discharge of tears, so that the eye overflows, as nature tries by flushing it to propel along and float away with the current the cause of the irritation.

Both of these affections are caused by the action of the sun's rays, but why one person takes while another freckles is not easy of explanation. Both affections are said to be caused chiefly by the chemical or ultra-violet rays, but in the case of sunburn it is probable that the heat also has some effect.

The tan may come gradually, without any burn, after a succession of slight and brief exposures to the sun or to high winds, for wind will tan as well as sunshine. Usually, however, the city dweller gets well burned during the first few days of his vacation in the country or on the water.

In severe cases the skin is red, slightly swollen and the heat of a burn, burning sensation; if the exposure has been prolonged, or the glare of the sun very intense, it may be even blistered. After a few days the soreness and heat subside and the red color gradually turns to brown.

If the burn is pretty severe, cooling lotions, such as alcohol and water, diluted with cold water, a solution of bicarbonate of soda or lead water may be applied, or the skin may be smeared with cold cream, camphor oil, zinc ointment, or a mixture of lime water and oil. Some such application as this, the sufferer being careful to keep out of the sun for a day or two, will usually suffice.

If blisters form they should be pricked with a clean needle at the most dependent part, and when the water has drained away they should be covered with a cloth spread with one of the greasy applications just mentioned.

Freckles occur usually on persons of a sandy complexion, especially those with red hair. They are not common in very young children, under six or eight years of age, or in persons of middle or advanced life. They usually come for the first time in summer, and are less marked, or even disappear in winter. Persons who freckle do not tan as a rule.

Freckles, like sunburn, may be prevented by the wearing of a veil, preferably red or brown. Medical books sometimes speak of removing freckles by electricity or by touching each one with a drop of carbolic acid on a glass rod, but such severe remedies are worse than the disease. The spots will fade out more or less completely in the winter and will disappear wholly in time. In any case they are not particularly disfiguring.

good device is to fill the little finger of a kid glove with wet salt, and insert this in the ear before the heat is applied from the outside.

For preserving, granulated sugar should be used in equal weight with the fruit. For cherries, remove the stems, add the sugar and allow them to stand overnight. Then cook the mixture slowly until the fruit is soft and the syrup clear. A cracked cherry stone or two may be put into the jar if that flavor is wanted.

A housekeeper who is afraid of germs used on her bare floor a solution which is in use in some of the hospitals abroad. The floors are painted with a solution of paraffine and petroleum, which gives them a brown color, and renders them impervious to anything in the nature of microbes. Then, wiped up occasionally with a cloth saturated with an antiseptic solution, they are as sanitary as anything can be. The paraffine solution will last for two years.

Freshly washed paper baskets which are easily made for summer, or for any time, for the matter, are in separate pieces and tied together with ribbons. The outside is covered with a pretty bright figured cotton or some kind, the inside lined with a plain color in crepe paper to match a predominant color in the autumn. There are four oblong sides and a square piece for the bottom made of cardboard, which are creased inside and out; in this way the edges are bound with ribbons and notes are punched top and bottom, and the basket is tied together with ribbon. These pretty additions to bedrooms are great conveniences. The great need in private houses in the guest chambers, as well as in hotels, is always a place to put scraps. The constant companion of one woman who travels frequently is a small basket into which she throws the odds and ends, for which no place is provided.

Tomatoes may be salted and peppered, dipped in beaten egg and cracker crumbs and fried until they are brown. For these it is better not to use the onion. They are particularly delicious served with fish.

To stuff green peppers, plunge the peppers into hot fat for two minutes, remove and peel off the thin outer coating, which will be found striped. Cut from the bottom a thin slice and remove the inside. Make a mixture of one cupful of boiled rice, one finely chopped tomato, two tablespoonfuls of finely chopped mushrooms, one tablespoonful of butter and one teaspoonful of onion juice for every six peppers. Fill this into the peppers, place them, open side down, in a pan and bake about twenty minutes.

The Fashions.

"It was prophesied last season that fashions were to increase in size, but the fact of the matter, whether in gowns, china silk, paragon or linen, appear to remain a convenient and manageable size, which is somewhat larger than the Empire shape. A number of novelties have appeared in the Japanese varieties, which are unusually attractive and dainty, but until the present hot spell settled down, evidently to stay, the fan has been a rather superfluous article.

"A pretty new thing in the shops is an odd little pin to fasten the lace necktie which is so much needed. There is a tiny bar that fits the lace barbs at the throat where it crosses, and fastened to two little chains about an inch and a half long, are two gold and jeweled flower forms to hold the ends of the lace in place. These are very dainty and decorative on a light costume.

"Not for many years has the green veil been so much in evidence as it has been this season. At first it was seen only occasionally, but now it has become a familiar feature on sailor hats. There may be another tiny, black mesh veil worn over the face, but the green veil is laid loosely about the brim, ready to drop down. It is of thin tissue and the brightest emerald green, which adds a refreshing bit of color on a hot day at the same time affording a grateful relief to the eyes in the glare of the sun.

"Use of the prettiest and most graceful feature of dress gowns for the summer is the use of soft flexible silk, chiffon or other airy transparent fabric. These appear as sashes alone, but quite as often they are in the form of the skirt ends of frocks, berthes, collarettes, surtouts, waists or beautiful boleros of lace and insertion. These sashes may be black, white or of tinted material matching the gown. The black and white ones are made very effective by adding to them delicate applique work, or lace in contrast—black on white or white on black.

"The crepe de chine sashes, with deep, ruffled fringes and elaborately beaded tops, are particularly rich and graceful.

"A decided revolution in the arrangement of the hair is in progress, says Harper's Bazar. The plain pompadour, with the hair brushed straight off the face, is going entirely out of fashion. The pompadour itself with the hair pulled away from the face and the hair in front of the forehead to have quite the effect of a bang. Some curls on the temples are also necessary. The hair is tied in a knot far up on the head, so that it is not seen, and in many instances as to make the head look top-heavy, but the correct style is to have the knot of hair well beyond the crown of the head, with the hair pulled out around the sides and in front of the becoming effect. Hair is still waved, but there is more attempt than ever to make it seem that the waves come from naturally curly hair. The effect is rather difficult to get during very hot weather, and is only obtained by the use of some preparation before the waving is put in. Unfortunately the fashion to dye the hair a chestnut brown still prevails; unless this is artistically done, however, it is decidedly out of form, and the fashion is therefore likely to go out soon, as to have it properly done requires the services of a skillful artist.

"The lavish use of small, gilt braids and ribbons in the hair is still in vogue, and is scarcely more than a spangly little in a trimming that is enjoying a great popularity this summer, and is even beginning to appear upon costume gowns.

"Little collarettes of lace and mousseline, with long scarf ends, are very much worn, and seem to fill the place of the fancy bows. They are simply a yoke with ruffles attached and finished around the neck with strings of lace.

"Cloths in pale colors are used for driving coats, with a light fitted basque in the back. The front slope off a little from below the bust, and large double revers and collar of white silk are used in the dress above a white silk fastened with silver buttons.

"A pretty effect is given to a linen suit coat by a row of pointed straps around the edge of the deep collar, which have the effect of buttoning up on the right side with three little pearl buttons. This makes loops through which run a soft roll or twist of coarse lace, which makes a little knot at the front. The straps are graduated in length, longer in the back, and gradually growing smaller to the front.

"Dates are beginning to show the ostrich feathers which have been promised. They are black and white, a big white hat tipping down over the face having two white ostrich feathers put on at the front and passing around the hat on either side. Some hats have one feather black and one white, and others have a big soft knot of mousseline on one side and a white feather on the other, or in place of the ostrich plume, a big bunch of coque feathers.

"The time in cloth gowns seem to be lighter even than they were in the early spring, and now there is an ice color which is inimitable, a delicate green, and the faintest tint of pink, which make charming gowns for cool days.

"Cashmeres and serges, twills, linens and mouselines were the materials largely used for slacks, although the softer and lighter materials were to be seen. There is nothing prettier than these, and they are charming in the first part of the day, but at its close they have a bedraggled look that nothing is more unlovely.

"Woolen coats are not as often seen (as yet) as those of plaided chiffon, net, shantung and mouseline de soie, and it would be almost impossible to give an idea of the varied schemes of working up these dressy effects. A pretty bow which was very simple, was made of chiffon ribbon, edged with a double ruff of maline, arranged in a fluffy jabot.

"Very smart are the combinations of colored plaques with white plaques or cotton chevrons in various shades, mingled with white plaques or of various shades.

Domestic Hints.

DELICATE POTATOES.

Chop very fine one quart of cold boiled potatoes, put them into a saucepan with one cup of cream, two tablespoonfuls of butter, a little salt and pepper, stir until hot, then turn into a baking dish, cover with bread or cracker crumbs, and bake brown in a brisk oven.

CHICKEN BAKING.

One pound chicken cut into small pieces, one quart cold water, one tablespoonful rice soaked in warm water, four tablespoonfuls milk, salt, pepper and a little chopped parsley. Boil the meat until very tender. Strain it out and to the broth add the soaked rice, one half pound of butter, and one half pound of cream, and stir until thick. Serve with the milk, salt and pepper.

PRESERVED PINEAPPLE.

Pare the pineapple and carefully pick out every particle of the eyes. A small, pointed silver knife is the best for this work. Either pick off with a fork, or grate off the soft part, leaving the hard core. Weigh and allow three quarters of a pound of sugar to each pound of fruit. Put all together in the preserving kettle, and let it stand overnight. In the morning, bring to a boil, and cook slowly half an hour. Pour into jars and seal into jars and seal into jars and seal into jars.

PEACH CROQUETTES.

Pare, quarter and core one-half a dozen ripe peaches, bring three tablespoonfuls of water and half a cupful of sugar to a brisk boil, add the peaches, cook soft, and press through a colander. Sift one-third of a box of gelatine into the peach puree, and add one-half cupful of granulated sugar, the grated rind of half a lemon and one cup of water five minutes; add gelatine and stir until it is dissolved; add juice of half a large lemon and the rind of half a lemon, and stir until it is dissolved. When it begins to stiffen beat in the stiff beaten whites of three eggs, pour into a wet mold and set on ice for four hours to mould. Serve very cold with whipped cream or custard sauce.

CURRENT JELLY.

To make currant jelly wash the fruit and drain it in a colander. Then put the fruit in a dish and mash it thoroughly, after which squeeze the juice from it through a double piece of new cheese cloth. Measure the juice and add an equal quantity of sugar. Put the juice into a preserving kettle and boil for twenty minutes, skimming frequently. Put the sugar on plates in the oven and heat it through, but do not brown it. At the end of the twenty minutes add the sugar to the juice and boil for five minutes. Try a spoonful on a plate, and if it jellies it should be strained from the fire. Fill into glasses and seal them tightly.

Hints to Housekeepers.

Patties, green peas, olives and pickles are quite a favorite combination, making also a most acceptable course for luncheon or dinner.

Into the work bag of the modish young woman goes now usually a pair of fine imported hose, embroidered in miniature of leisure she spends her skill embroidering French dots and slender, vine-like tracings. A recent bride was the recipient of a dozen pairs of silk stockings, embroidered in each of three by her four bride-maiders.

Karache, so often common with little children, is a severe pain and is usually accompanied with a sharp scream. The pain is likely to be prolonged and continuous. Twenty drops of warm water should be put into the ear, and a position of flexed applied warm, but not too hot, or the hot water bag may be held against the ear. A

Radway's Ready Relief, used inwardly, will in a few minutes cure Cramps, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Nausea, Sick-headache, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Sea-sickness, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Sick-headache, Summer Complaint, Cholera Morbus, Diarrhea, Dysentery, Colic, Flatulency and all internal pains.

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We rise by the things that are under feet, By what we have mastered of good and gain, By the price deposited and passion slain, And the vast quibbled life that hourly moans, —Joshua Gilbert Holland.

Build as thou wilt, unsupplied by praise or blame, Build as thou wilt, and as thy light is given: Then, if at last the airy structure fall, Disperse and vanish, leave thyself no shame—Thomas Bailey Aldrich.

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preserved with so-called formalin. Several deaths have resulted, and its use for that purpose has been prohibited. Pure formalin, while not recommended for that purpose, is not considered dangerous in the very minute proportions permitted for preserving milk. The difficulty in this case seems to have been from the improper and too free use of impure formaldehyde solutions, sold at reduced rates.

—For an army of thirty thousand men and ten thousand horses for three months, it is estimated that 11,000 tons of food and forage are necessary.

